

PLAYS THAT TEACH

PLAYS, ACTIVITIES, & SONGS WITH A MESSAGE

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HEALTHY, WEALTHY, AND WISE

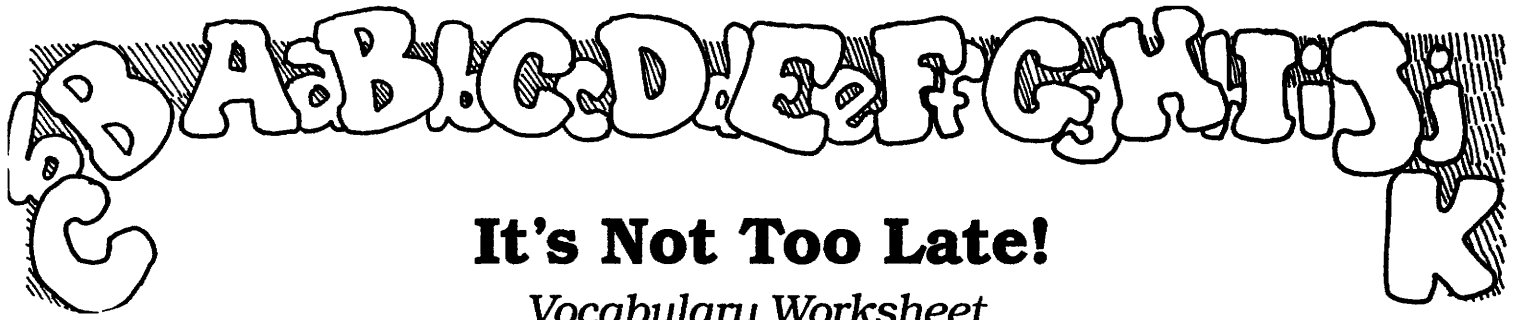
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IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

THE CAST

- Earth
- The Planet Clean-and-Safe
- Moon
- Mrs. Hazard
- Mrs. Scott
- Mrs. Horgan
- Kevin
- Kacey
- Additional children playing in the park, if you wish
- Mr. Wastewater
- Elizabeth Gimme
- Mr. Toxic
- Mrs. Toxic
- Mr. Sparkle
- Mrs. Sparkle
- Sarah Sparkle
- Any passers-by you wish to add
- Mrs. Fresh
- Mrs. Crisp
- Extra students to sing the rap song, if you wish





It's Not Too Late!

Vocabulary Worksheet

MATCHING

Match the word or phrase with the definition which is most correct.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. ___ orbit | a. Very sad; unhappy |
| 2. ___ collide | b. The path of a planet or other body as it revolves around another body |
| 3. ___ depressed | c. Half of the earth, divided by the equator |
| 4. ___ hemisphere | d. To run into one another |
| 5. ___ ozone layer | e. The blanket of air which protects the earth from the sun |

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Pick the sentence in which each of the words or phrases is used most correctly.

6. encouraged

- ___ a. He was **encouraged** when his coach told him he would probably never be a good baseball player.
- ___ b. He gathered all his **encouraged** as he stood up to make his speech.
- ___ c. She **encouraged** her mother to take the job, saying that she and her father would be fine.

7. extinct

- ___ a. There are only a few condors left in North America—soon they will be **extinct**.
- ___ b. The **extinct** of the building was cracked and peeling, but the inside was clean and neat.
- ___ c. His mother made him throw away his sneakers because they were **extinct**.

ADDITIONAL EXERCISES

8. An **endangered species** is:

- ___ a. a kind of plant or animal of which few are left on the earth.
- ___ b. an animal which has completely disappeared.
- ___ c. a very dangerous animal, such as a tiger or leopard.

9. Name three **disposable** items used in your home:

10. List three items you can begin to **recycle** in your home:

11. Describe the ideal **environment** for a lazy Saturday morning: _____

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

(The play begins when EARTH and MOON enter. EARTH begins speaking to the audience.)

EARTH: Hi, everyone, and welcome to our show! I'm the Planet Earth—as if you couldn't tell! Not quite enough rings to be Saturn! *(She laughs.)* Sorry—I crack myself up!

(MOON has been tugging at EARTH's costume, saying "Me! Me!" and trying to interrupt.)

EARTH: Oh, and this is my Moon.

MOON: Hi! You know that song "When the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie"? Well, that's about ME!

EARTH: Yes, yes, my little friend, pipe down! Where was I? Oh, yes. I'm in a good mood today, but a while back I was really sad and blue—as blue as these oceans here! *(She indicates the oceans on her costume.)* Luckily, I ran into someone who helped me out. Come on, I'll show you.

(EARTH and MOON start to walk along.)

EARTH: It all started one day when I was minding my own business, orbiting the sun... *(EARTH turns slowly.)*

MOON: And I was orbiting *her*... *(MOON turns also.)*

EARTH: When I saw another planet coming toward me!

(Enter CLEAN-AND-SAFE, not looking where he is going. He is wearing sunglasses, snapping pictures with a camera, and acting like a tourist.)

EARTH: Hey, buddy, watch where you're going!

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: Oops! Pardon me! My mistake.

EARTH: It's okay. My mind wasn't on my orbit anyway. I'm so depressed!

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: I can see that just by looking at you! Maybe I can help.

MOON: Say, who are you? I never saw you in this solar system before!

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: I'm just visiting! It's my vacation.

EARTH: Oh. Well, the problem is that my people are ruining me! They treat their

planet as if they think I'll always be around—but they're using me up!

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: I see. Well, allow me to introduce myself. I'm the Planet Clean-and-Safe from the Spic'n'Span Solar System. My people used to treat me just that way, but they wised up!

EARTH: Really?

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: Yes! Don't worry—you can be saved.

EARTH: But look at the sorts of things they're doing!

(Both planets and MOON twirl to the side of the acting area and act as narrators while students act out the following scenes. Enter MRS. HAZARD pushing a baby carriage with a doll in it, and carrying a diaper bag. She stops when she meets Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Horgan, and their children, Kevin and Kacey. The moms want to admire Mrs. Hazard's baby, but Kevin and Kacey are impatient.)

MRS. SCOTT: What a precious baby!

MRS. HORGAN: She looks just like you!

KEVIN: She looks just like my fingers and toes when I've been in the bathtub too long!

MRS. SCOTT: Kevin!

KACEY: I smell something! Whooh! It's the baby!

KEVIN: Let's get outta here!

(They run away. Additional children may be added, if you like, rushing up to KEVIN and KACEY and taking them off to play.)

MRS. HORGAN: Don't mind them, Mrs. Hazard. Your baby is just precious.

MRS. SCOTT: But I do think it may be time for a...a change?

MRS. HAZARD: Oh? Oh yes, I think you're right.

(MRS. SCOTT and MRS. HORGAN exit as MRS. HAZARD takes a disposable diaper out of her bag and begins to change the baby while EARTH, MOON, and CLEAN-AND-SAFE talk.)

EARTH: There's Mrs. Hazard. She has a darling baby, but she uses disposable diapers!

MOON: You can't blame her! They're so much easier to use than cloth.

EARTH: Sure, but it takes the soil hundreds of years to break down a diaper! We don't even know yet what happens if we throw the diaper away with the...er...

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: The waste material.

EARTH: Yes, the waste material inside the diaper.

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: Yes, you're right, Earth. Mrs. Hazard should at least try to use cloth diapers!

MRS. HAZARD: Now you're dry—let's throw this nasty-wasty diaper in the trash!

*(MRS. HAZARD and baby exit, and MR. WASTEWATER enters. He sets up his shower—see **Scenery** for suggestions about building one—and goes in. He throws a towel over the door and begins to pantomime showering. He sings loudly, but doesn't drown out EARTH and CLEAN-AND-SAFE.)*

EARTH: Oh, no, it's Mr. Wastewater.

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: Don't tell me, let me guess. He's about to take a nice, hot, *long* shower and waste hundreds of gallons of water.

EARTH: Yes. And he's going to use soap called "Sweet Country Pine." It's just loaded with artificial color and smell!

MOON: What does "artificial" mean?

EARTH and **CLEAN-AND-SAFE:** Fake.

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: You know, Earthlings don't need to give up their showers! All they need is a little thing called a "low flow showerhead."

MOON: Does that mean they'll shower real low, like they'll have to sit down?

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: Heavens, no! It's a little metal thing that screws onto the shower nozzle and cuts down the amount of water that comes out—only you don't even notice! The shower still feels good.

EARTH: That doesn't seem like too much to ask.

CLEAN-AND-SAFE: Heavens, no! He could also choose a natural soap and shampoo without so much smelly junk.

MOON: I sure wish he'd stop singing.

EARTH, CLEAN-AND-SAFE, and MOON: Quiet!